



Arlington Economic Recovery Task Force

Minutes

Date: Tuesday June 9, 2020

Time: 2:00-3:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98233921816>

Meeting ID: 982 3392 1816

One tap mobile

+16468769923,,98233921816# US

+13017158592,,98233921816# US

Present: Jennifer Raitt, Dept. of Planning and Community Development; Ali Carter, Dept. of Planning and Community Development; Rachel Zsembery, Arlington Redevelopment Board; Cristin Canterbury Bagnall, Arlington Commission for Arts and Culture; Michelle Casey, Marchelle Salone; Alyssa Clossey, Support Arlington Center; Tom Formicola, Arlington Center for the Arts; Erik Kondo, Broadway Athletics; Beth Locke, Arlington Chamber of Commerce; Sarah Morgan-Wu, The Object of Stories; Janet O'Riordan, Old Schwamb Mill; Dorothy Zahir, Leader Bank; Bob Bowes, Bowes Real Estate; Leland Stein, Regent Theater; Tim Haley, Ellenhorn; Emily Shea, Kickstand Café; Bootsy Mullan, Town Tavern

Minutes

1. Public Health Update: Ali Carter reported 310 COVID-19 cases and 41 deaths in Arlington
2. Arlington Consumer Survey: released Friday 6/5
 - a. Over 1,000 responses so far (1,034 as of this meeting)
 - b. Open until June 19th; please spread the word to your networks
 - c. Preliminary results
 - i. 30% will wait to dine inside until there's a vaccine; 8.75% ready now
 - ii. 10% will wait to shop in a business until there's a vaccine; 20% will shop as soon as they reopen
 - iii. 60% of respondents said they want curbside pick-up options to continue until there's a vaccine; 30% said they want it to continue permanently

- iv. 27% of respondents said they would do a quarter to a half of their shopping online; 42% said they would prefer to shop through local retailers online
 - v. 80% of respondents indicated they would be willing to pay more at a businesses if prices go up due to safety precautions
 - vi. 53% of respondents indicated they would be very uncomfortable attending a large indoor event
- 3. Focus Group summaries: focus groups were held for food businesses; personal care; retailers; arts and culture; recreation and fitness; and finance, insurance, real estate, and related industries (FIRE). All reported increased operating costs due to PPE as well as decreased business and cash flow. The industries least impacted by COVID-19 were in the FIRE focus group.
- 4. Park and Recreation Commission recommendations: Task Force will recommend allowing for-profit fitness and arts groups in parks as long as they meet certain guidelines including ADA compliance, social distancing, general safety, and proximity and desire of local businesses.
- 5. Next steps: questions and comments from Task Force members
 - a. Are there ways we can find for musicians and other artists to work that doesn't draw a crowd?

Next meeting on Tuesday June 16th at 2 pm via Zoom.